Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Michael Shaeffer, a University of South Dakota student in the early 1970s, was the innovator of the costume and persona of Charlie Coyote for the first 5 years of Charlie's existence; and,

Whereas, Mick, as all his friends called him, was a special person and his alter ego really came out once he donned the coyote costume and roamed the sidelines of Inman Field and the new armory; and,

Whereas, Mick "passed the hat" among USD students to pay for the first suit constructed of papier-mâché by a fine arts student and funded his own travel expenses to games; and,

Whereas, Mick put his heart and soul into portraying Charlie and continued his existence as Charlie into his first 2 years of medical school when time restraints forced him to retire; and,

Whereas, Mick, as Charlie Coyote, is the only team mascot to be named to the all tournament team after endearing himself to a St. Louis, Missouri, crowd at a NCAA regional basketball tournament; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper that we recognize Dr. Michael T. Schaeffer for the major role he played in making Charlie one of the only mascots in the Midwest at that time and was a true pioneer when he created Charlie Coyote:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 5, 2005, as

MICK SHAEFFER DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Tenth Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State